

The Chinese Journal.

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號十二月五日七十八百八千英

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, MAY 20, 1887.

日八月四日亥丁

PRICE, \$2 PER MONTH.

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON.—F. ALGAR, 11 & 12, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street, E.C. G. GEORGE STREET & CO., 30, Cornhill. GORDON & GOUGH, Ludgate Circus, E.C. BATES, HENRY & CO., 37, Walbrook, E.C. LADY DODSON, N. CO., 150 & 154, Leadenhall Street, W.M. WILLS, 152, Cannon Street, E.C.

PARIS AND EUROPE.—AMBERT PRINCE & CO., 36, Rue Lafayette, Paris.

NEW YORK.—ANDREW WIND, 21, Park Row.

SAN FRANCISCO and American Ports generally.—BRAN & BLACK, San Francisco.

AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND.—GORDON & GOTHE, Melbourne and Sydney.

CEYLON.—W. M. SMITH & CO., THE APOTHECARY CO., Colombo.

SINGAPORE, STRAITS, &c.—SAYLOR & CO., Square, Singapore. C. HUNNEMAN & CO., Manila.

CHINA.—MASON, F. A. DE CRUZ, Sonora, QUILLON & CO., Amoy, N. MOULIE, Pocock, HENRY & CO., Shanghai.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., and KELLY & WALSH, Victoria, LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., and KELLY & CO., and KELLY & CO.

Banks.

NOTICE.

RULES OF THE HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

1.—The business of the above Bank will be conducted by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, on their premises in Hongkong. Business hours on week-days, 10 to 3; Saturdays, 10 to 1.

2.—Sum less than \$1, or more than \$250 at one time will not be received. No depositor may deposit more than \$2,500 in any one year.

3.—Depositors in the Savings' Bank having \$100 or more at their credit may at their option transfer the same to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation on fixed deposit for 12 months at 5 per cent. and all interest.

4.—Interest on the sum of 2½ per cent. per annum will be allowed to depositors on their daily balances.

5.—Each Depositor will be supplied gratis with a Pass-Book which must be presented with each payment or withdrawal. Depositors must not make any entries themselves in their Pass-Books but should send them to be written up at least twice a year, about the beginning of January and beginning of July.

6.—Correspondence to the business of the Bank if marked On Hongkong Savings' Bank Business is forwarded free by the various British Post Offices in Hongkong and China.

7.—Withdrawals may be made on demand, but the personal attendance of the depositor or his duly appointed agent, and the production of his Pass-Book are necessary.

For the
HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION,
JOHN WALTER,
Acting Chief Manager.
Hongkong, July 7, 1887. 754

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL.....\$7,500,000
RESERVE FUND.....\$4,500,000
RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROPRIETORS.....\$7,500,000

COURT OF DIRECTORS.
Chairman—M. GROTE, Esq.
Dputy Chairman—C. D. BOTTOMLEY, Esq.
Hon. J. BELL IRVING, Esq.
W. H. F. DARBY, Esq.
H. L. DALKYMPH, Esq.
H. HOPPIUS, Esq.
John M. McEWEN,
A. MOLVER, Esq.
H. F. D. SANSON.

CHIEF MANAGER.
(London)....THOMAS JACKSON, Esq.
Acting Chief Manager—JOHN WALTER, Esq.
MANAGER.
Shanghai.....EWEN CAMERON, Esq.
LONDON BANKERS—London and County Bank.

HONGKONG.
INTEREST ALLOWED.
On Current Deposit, Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

On Fixed Deposits—
For 3 months, 3 per cent. per annum.
" 6 " 4 per cent. "
" 12 " 5 per cent. "

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.
Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts granted in London, and the chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

JOHN WALTER,
Acting Chief Manager.
Hongkong, February 26, 1887. 363

Notices of Firms.

NOTICE.

THE INTEREST and RESPONSIBILITY of the late Mr. GEORG THEODORE SIEMSEN, in our Firm ceased on the 24th December, 1886, and that of Mr. PAUL GERHARD RUBBE on the 31st December, 1886.

Mr. JACOB RUFF has been authorized to sign our Bills per Procurator from this date.

SIEMSEN & CO.
Hongkong and China,
14th February, 1887. 310

THE SHANGHAI MARINE ENGINEERS' MUTUAL INSURANCE SOCIETY, LIMITED.

THE Undersigned has been appointed SUB-AGENT at this Port for the above SOCIETY.

By Order of the Directors,
JOHN W. KINGHORN,
17, Praya Central.
Hongkong, April 16, 1887. 919

Intimations.

NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Annual General MEETING of the VICTORIA ENCREATION CLUB will be held in the GYMNASIUM on THURSDAY NEXT, the 26th instant, at 5.30 p.m.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Hon. Secretary,
VICTORIA RECREATION Club.
Hongkong, May 19, 1887. 951

CHAS. J. GAUPP & CO.,
Chronometer, Watch & Clock Makers,
Jewellers, Gold & Silversmiths.

NAUTICAL, SCIENTIFIC AND METEOROLOGICAL INSTRUMENTS.

VOIGTLANDER'S CELESTIAL BINOCULARS AND TELESCOPES.

RITZER'S LIQUID & OTHER COMPASSES.
ADMIRALTY & IMRAY CHARTS.

NAUTICAL BOOKS.

English SILVER & ELECTRO-PLATEDWARE.
Christie & CO.'S ELECTRO-PLATEDWARE.
GOLD & SILVER JEWELLERY,

in great variety.

D I A M O N D S

DIAMOND JEWELLERY.

A Splendid Collection of the Latest London PATTERNS, at very moderate prices. 742

PUNJAM AND SUNGHEE DUA SAMANTAN MINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

T H E HOTEL IS CENTRALLY LOCATED, WITHIN A FEW MINUTES' WALK FROM THE PRINCIPAL LANDING PLACES.

GOOD ACCOMMODATION FOR VISITORS.

CHARGES MODERATE.

TIFFIN at 1 o'clock. DINNER at 7.30.

WELL VENTILATED BILLIARD ROOM.

TIFFIN 50 CENTS. DINNER 75 CENTS.

WINE, BEERS AND MALT LIQUORS OF THE VERY BEST QUALITY ONLY.

Hongkong, April 1, 1887. 607

D. K. GRIFFITH & CO.,
THE LONDON AERATED WATERS MANUFACTURERS,
1, DUDDLE STREET,
CONTINUOUS TO SUPPLY

SODA WATER,
TONIC WATER,
SEIZURE WATER,
SAUSAPARILLA,
LEMONADE,
GINGERADE,
RASPBERRYADE,
&c., &c., &c.

SPECIAL RATES TO LARGE CONSUMERS.

Hongkong, April 6, 1887. 595

N O T I C E .

HONGKONG AND WHAMPoa DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED.

SHIPMASTERS and ENGINEERS are respectfully informed that upon their arrival in this Harbour, NONE of the Company's FOREMEN should be at hand, Orders for REPAIRS if sent to the Head OFFICE, No. 14, Praya Central, will receive prompt attention.

In the Event of Complaints being found necessary, Communication with the Under-signed is requested, when immediate steps will be taken to rectify the cause of dissatisfaction.

D. GILLIES,
Secretary.

Hongkong, August 25, 1885. 1458

DENTISTRY.

FIRST CLASS WORKMANSHIP.

Moderate Fees.

MR. WONG TAI FONG,

Surgeon Dentist,

(Formerly ARTICLED APPRENTICE and LATENT ASSISTANT to Dr. ROGERS.)

At the urgent request of his European

and American patients and friends, he TAKEN THE OFFICE formerly occupied by Dr. ROGERS.

No. 2, DUDDLE STREET.

CONSULTATION FREE.

Discount to missionaries and families.

Sole Address.

2, DUDDLE STREET,
(Next to the New Oriental Bank.)

Hongkong, January 12, 1887. 68

N O T I C E .

EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

ONE of the STEAM VESSELS of the

above Companies is appointed to leave

HONGKONG for AUSTRALIAN PORTS every nine

days. When the sailing date falls on a

SUNDAY, the Departure will take place at Daylight on that day.

Schedule of Sailings to 30th June, 1887.

May ... 22 June ... 0

" 31 " " 18

" 12 " " 27

RUSSELL & CO.,
Agents, Eastern & Australian
Steamship Co., Ltd.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents, China Navigation Co., Ltd.

Hongkong, April 1, 1887. 603

N O T I C E .

THE Undersigned has been appointed

SUB-AGENT at this Port for the

above SOCIETY.

By Order of the Directors,

JOHN W. KINGHORN,
17, Praya Central.

Hongkong, April 16, 1887. 919

Business Notices.

Summer!

SEASIDE OPEN AIR WORKS & CO.

ARE NOW SHOWING NEW GOODS IN THEIR GENTLEMEN'S OUTFITTING DEPARTMENT, including MANY NOVELTIES in—

UNDERSHIRTS and DRAWERS.

Fancy and Plain SUMMER HALF-HOSE.

New LAWN TENNIS JERSEYS.

SILK and WOMEN'S SKIRT TENNIS SHIRTS.

Fancy GAMBIER SCARVES and TIERS.

The Newest SUMMER GRAVATS.

BATHING-COSTUMES and DRESSES.

LADIES' Fancy BATH WRAPS.

BATH TOWELS and SPONGES.

UMBRELLAS and RAIN COATS.

LADIES' WATERPROOF CLOAKS.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.'S social Extra Thin GAMBIER SHIRTS.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.'S THICK FEATHER HATS.

TERAI, SOFT FEATHER and TENNIS HATS.

SUN HATS and STRAW HATS.

A full Assortment of SUMMER BOOTS, TENNIS SHOES, and TENNIS BATS.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

Hongkong, May 19, 1887. 750

STAG HOTEL,
QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, HONGKONG.

J. COOK, Proprietor.

THE HOTEL IS CENTRALLY LOCATED, WITHIN A FEW MINUTES' WALK FROM THE PRINCIPAL LANDING PLACES.

GOOD ACCOMMODATION FOR VISITORS.

CHARGES MODERATE.

TIFFIN at 1 o'clock. DINNER at 7.30.

WELL VENTILATED BILLIARD ROOM.

THE CHINA MAIL

[No. 7414—May 20, 1887.]

Notices to Consignees.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

STEAMSHIP SACHSEN,
FROM BREMEN AND PORTS
OF CALL.

The above-named Steamer having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods, with the exception of Opium, Treasure and Valuables, are being landed and stored at their risk into the Godowns of the HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWN COMPANY, LTD., Kowloon, whence delivery may be obtained.

Cargo from NEW YORK &c.s. *Fulds and Ens*, has come forward by this Steamer.

OPTIONAL CARGO will be landed here in Hongkong unless notice to the contrary be given before Noon To-morrow, the 19th Inst.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining after the 26th Instant, will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on TUESDAY, the 31st May, at 4 p.m.

All Claims must reach us before the 2nd June, or they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

MELCHERS & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, May 19, 1887. 940

STEAMSHIP ANADYR.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo from London, Antwerp and Havre, ex S.S. *Indus* and *Romania*, in connection with the above Steamers, are hereby informed that their Goods—with the exception of Opium, Treasure and Valuables—are being landed and stored at their risk at the Company's Godowns, whence delivery may be obtained immediately after landing.

Options to go will be forwarded, unless intimation is made to the Consignee before 10 a.m. To-morrow (Saturday), the 14th May, requesting it to be landed here by the Undersigned.

Goods remaining unclaimed after Saturday, the 21st May, 1887, at noon, will be subject to rent, and landing charges at one cent per packet per diem.

All Claims must be sent in to me on or before MONDAY, the 23rd May, 1887, or they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

G. DE CHAMPEAUX, Agent.

Hongkong, May 13, 1887. 909

NETHERLANDS INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FROM SOURLABAYA, SAMARANG, BATAVIA, SINGAPORE AND SAIGON.

THE Company's S.S. *Borneo*, having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo by her are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed at their risk into the HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWN COMPANY's West Point Godown, whence delivery may be obtained.

Cargo remaining undelivered after the 23rd Instant will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

JARDINE, MATHEWS & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, May 16, 1887. 925

THE BEN LINE OF STEAMERS.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.
FROM LEITH, LONDON AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship *Benarig*, Captain Clark, having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading to the Undersigned for countersignature, and to take immediate delivery of their Goods from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the Steamer will be once landed and stored at Consignee's risk and expense, and no Fire Insurance will be effected.

All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Undersigned on or before the 30th Instant, or they will not be recognized.

RUSSELL & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, May 20, 1887. 958

To-day's Advertisements.

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR SHANGHAI.

(Taking Cargo & Passengers at through rates for NINGPO, CHEFOO, NEW CHWANG, TIENTSIN, HANKOW and Ports on the YANGTSE.)

The Co.'s Steamship *Patroclos*, Capt. THOMPSON, will be despatched as above at p.m. TO-MORROW, the 21st Instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hongkong, May 20, 1887. 962

FOR SWATOW, SINGAPORE AND BANGKOK.

THE SCOTTISH ORIENTAL STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

The Company's Steamer *Esmeralda*, Captain P. HAY, will be despatched for the above Ports on SUNDAY, the 22nd Inst. at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

RUSSELL & CO., General Managers.

Hongkong, May 20, 1887. 959

THE CHINA & MANILA STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR MANILA (DIRECT).

The Co.'s Steamship *Esmeralda*, Captain TAYLOR, will be despatched for the above Port on MONDAY, the 23rd Inst., at 4 p.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

RUSSELL & CO., General Managers.

Hongkong, May 20, 1887. 967

BANK HOLIDAYS.

In accordance with Ordinance No. 6 of 1875, the Undermentioned BANKS will be CLOSED for the Transaction of Public Business on TUESDAY NEXT, the 22nd Instant.

For the Chartered Merchant Bank of India, London and China.

JOHN THURBURN, Manager, Hongkong.

For the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China.

T. H. WHITEHEAD, Manager, Hongkong.

For the 'Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.'

JOHN WALTER, Acting Chief Manager.

For the 'Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris.'

J. ARRANGER, Acting Agent.

For the New Orient Bank Corporation Limited.

E. W. RUTTER, Manager, Hongkong.

Hongkong, May 20, 1887. 960

LUBECK FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

MAIL WILL CLOSE.—

The Undersigned having been appointed General Agents for the above Company are prepared to accept RISKS against FIRE at Current Rates.

SCHEEBLE & CO.

Hongkong, May 20, 1887. 961

UNION LINE.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM LONDON, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship *Oxfordshire*, Captain G. P. TONES, having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading to the Undersigned for countersignature, and to take immediate delivery of their Goods from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the Steamer will be once landed and stored at Consignee's risk and expense, and no Fire Insurance will be effected.

All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Undersigned on or before the 30th Instant, or they will not be recognized.

RUSSELL & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, May 20, 1887. 958

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

May 19, 1887.—

Giltland, British steamer, 1,090, M. Rossin, Saigon May 15, Paddy and Rice.

Woo Kee.

May 20.—

Aston, German steamer, 396, E. Acrebeck, Patkot and Holwoy-May 18, General.

Weller & Co.

Glockberg, German s.s., 916, Schultz, Penang May 8, and Singapore 12, General.

SIN LONG.

Esmeralda, British steamer, 395, G. J. Taylor, Manila May 18, General—**RUSSELL & CO.**

Pattison, British steamer, 1,708, Jas. Rowley, Nagasaki May 15, Coal & General.

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO.

Guthrie, British steamer, 1,504, G. S. Green, Melbourne April 10, Sydney 30, Cape Moreton May 2, Sandy Cape 3, Cooktown 6, and Thursday Island 8, Coal and General—**RUSSELL & CO.**

Decima, German steamer, 365, P. Oestmann, Bangkok May 13, Rice—**EDWARD SCHILLERHORN & CO.**

Fidèle, German steamer, 392, H. Brock, Amoy and Swatow May 19, General—**MAN HONG.**

Patroclus, British steamer, 1,336, Thompson, Liverpool April 8, General—**BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE.**

China, German steamer, 665, T. P. Uden, Bangkok May 8, and Koh-si-chang 15, Rice—**MELCHERS & CO.**

Mount Lebanon, American barque, 580, Chas. H. Nelson, Bangkok via Kohkai Chang April 15, General—**ARNOLD, KIRK & CO.**

Taros Paw, Russian steamer, 1,193, Twadawky, Odessa April 13, General—**MELCHERS & CO.**

Albany, British steamer, 1,430, E. Porter, Saigon May 15, Rice and Paddy—**ADAMSON, BELL & CO.**

CLEARED:

Glenfield, for Shanghai.

Action, for Haiphong.

Daffa, for Haiphong.

Protector, for Singapore.

Hongkong Observatory, May 20, 1887. 928

Not Responsible for Debts.

Neither the Captain, the Agents, nor Owners will be Responsible for any Debt contracted by the Officers or Crew of the following Vessels, during their stay in Hongkong Harbour—

General Werner, Germ. s.s. Capt. W. von Schuckmann—**Melchers & Co.**

Mount Lebanon, Amer. barque, Capt. C. H. Nelson, Bangkok via Kohkai Chang—**Arnold, Kirk & Co.**

Wachau, American ship, Capt. C. O. Oakland—**Order**.

SEIMSEN & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, May 16, 1887. 928

DEPARTURES.

May 21.—

Vietnam, for Saigon.

Portuguese, for Saigon.

Clara, for Hongkong.

Baron, for Amoy.

General, for Tientsin and Chao-kiang.

Patroclus, for Yokohama.

Perseus, for Yokohama.

Pembroke, for Shanghai.

Patroclus, for Yokohama.

THE CHINA MAIL.

expenses shall be apportioned by the Board between the different owners of such ground or contiguous tenements.

65. "If any building be without a sufficient drain, and if a public sewer of sufficient size be within one hundred feet of the premises or outermost boundaries of the lot on which such building is situated, and if such public sewer be on a lower level, it shall be lawful for the Board to require the owner of such building to connect with such public sewer by means of a proper drain adequately trapped and ventilated to the satisfaction of the Board."

66. "The floor of every area and the basement floor of every building adjoining an area floor, shall be properly sealed paved, or covered over with a layer of concrete or other leading material, and the floor of such areas shall have a fall from the external wall of such building, towards the face of the hill-side of at least half an inch to the foot."

67. "Every area shall be kept at all times free and unobstructed by structures of any kind other than flights of steps, not shall such areas be roofed in, or covered over with glass or other material. Every area shall be provided with a suitable parapet wall, or iron railing or fence along its upper edge."

If defects sought to be remedied were defects according to the existing laws we would heartily endorse the adoption of the same, but for the sake of uniformity at present cost, but nothing to this effect is contained in the Bill, and many whose property is in accordance with present law will have under this Bill, if passed as it stands, to carry out its provisions at great loss to themselves, for clause 62 provides that—"All works connected with the construction, disconnection, trapping and ventilating of house drains, shall be carried out at the cost and charges of the owner of the houses, either by the Board, or by persons approved of by the latter" he would propose the addition of a clause to the effect that "where existing drainage, &c., is in accordance with the requirements of the law before the passing of this Bill, any alterations required by this Bill shall be carried out at the cost and charges of the Government."

In section 22, we would propose the substitution of "and to provide a sufficient and proper substitute therefor" instead of "or to provide, &c." We trust the Board will not only enforce the provisions of the Bill when passed against private property but will see that the public drainage system, &c., are also carried out thoroughly and well. For without reform of our present drainage system the alterations otherwise proposed will be nullified. We also entertain the hope that sundry minor sanitary matters will be looked after and regulated and that such anomalies as are at present seen, such as midday roadswearing or rather dusting and roadwatering in rail-heads will cease.

The Attorney-General in his speech at the Council when the Health Bill was introduced, referring to clause 81, and to clause 8 of schedule B, which provide for "300 cubic feet of clear interior space" to each adult, said that "if these were put into force, and carried out strictly at once, it is calculated it would turn out about 20,000 people, therefore it is not intended to carry it out at once, but by bit." We wonder the hon. gentleman with his legal mind did not demand that this should be stated in the Bill, for we have looked in vain for any guarantee for this. Why not provisions to this effect incorporated in the Bill? It speaks little for the legal training of the writers of the Ordinance that we are unable to find a clause to which the Attorney-General was entertained by them. We heartily welcome clause 15, section 19, by which the Board will have power to make by-laws in regard to "the maintenance of cleanliness in the harbours of Victoria, the waters of the Colony, and the foreshores thereof;" also clause 3, section 16, by which any vessel or boat lying within the waters of the colony is defined as "primes." We trust that under the working of these clauses the present anchoring of sampans, &c., near foreshores will be forbidden and the consequent deposit thereon of foul waste matter, which send forth vitious and noxious gases at low tide, will cease. It will then be necessary to walk from the end of the Peninsula to the other without having practically to mind of Otago and its vicinity.

As far as we can see, after a careful perusal of the Bill, no such or exception can be taken to the regulations regarding "new buildings"—that in buildings erected after the passing of this Bill. And we believe it will be found that the Bill will be unopposed by the Chinese, my heartily supported, if the modifications we have indicated should be adopted. The provisions as to new buildings will interfere with all, if we trust it will be, the Bill to properly translated into Chinese and made public.

We should like much to hear more details, as to the removal of certain penalties, which often much need. But this cannot be carried out without compensation (owing to past short-sighted legislation). Compensation might be effected in three ways: (1) Grants of additional land (2) by money payment or (3) By partial remission of taxes for a limited period.

With the alterations suggested we wish the Bill and its promoters success in their work and trust that a sufficient and capable staff of officers will be found to rigidly enforce its provisions. Then we may hope to see Hongkong daily becoming healthier instead of the opposite, and be able to say with the Attorney-General: "We can long life and keep sickness and disease from our doors."

L. BOE OMNIA VINCIT.
Our contractor makes unfair use of the death-rate figures in the Blue book. If he will state these figures again, he will find, we think, that though the increase in the rate has been gradual to a certain extent, the rate fluctuates too much to count up 8.29 as a permanent increase.—*Ed. C.M.*

THE IMPERIAL CONFERENCE.
The following highly-interesting resume of the proceedings at the Imperial Conference are taken from the *Sydney Morning Herald*, brought on by the *Gazette*:

London, April 19.—The sitting of the Imperial Conference was resumed to-day. The question relating to postal communication between England and the colonies was the first subject discussed. With the consent of the delegates, Sir Henry Holland invited the attendance of Mr. Henrique Heaton, who addressed the Conference at some length upon the Postal question.

The Colonial Governments were anxious to sacrifice the revenue derived from the postage.

Sir Graham Berry and Sir San Sam suggested that it might be possible to make the charge for letters 6d. via Brindisi, with 8d. or 1d. as the direct steamer rate.

Mr Cecil Raikes, the Postmaster-General, announced that, until the convention with France and Italy was signed, all mails would be sent via Brindisi.

The Colonial delegates consider that it would be premature at the present time for the colonies to join the Postal Union, and they consider that it would be better to leave the Agents-General of the different Colonies to negotiate in the matter. At the same time, it is urged that the Colonies should have an adequate representation on any commission that may be formed on Postal matters.

The delegates expressed a desire that the Imperial Conference, in its military defence of Australia, should be given the right to continue working the China mail services together, as this arrangement in certain seasons of the year causes delay in the conveyance of mail.

The Government of South Australia has agreed to the modified proposals of Lord George Hamilton, First Lord of the Admiralty, with regard to the maintenance of the fleet for the protection of Australian waters.

London, April 19.—The Imperial Conference was occupied to-day with the consideration of matters relating to postal communication and rates between England and the colonies. Sir Henry Holland, Secretary of State for the Colonies, and Mr. D. Bell, Minister of State for the Colonies, were present, but nothing to this effect is contained in the Bill, and many whose property is in accordance with present law will have under this Bill, if passed as it stands, to carry out its provisions at great loss to themselves, for clause 62 provides that—"All works connected with the construction, disconnection, trapping and ventilating of house drains, shall be carried out at the cost and charges of the owner of the houses, either by the Board, or by persons approved of by the latter" he would propose the addition of a clause to the effect that "where existing drainage, &c., is in accordance with the requirements of the law before the passing of this Bill, any alterations required by this Bill shall be carried out at the cost and charges of the Government."

In section 22, we would propose the substitution of "and to provide a sufficient and proper substitute therefor" instead of "or to provide, &c." We trust the Board will not only enforce the provisions of the Bill when passed against private property but will see that the public drainage system, &c., are also carried out thoroughly and well. For without reform of our present drainage system the alterations otherwise proposed will be nullified. We also entertain the hope that sundry minor sanitary matters will be looked after and regulated and that such anomalies as are at present seen, such as midday roadswearing or rather dusting and roadwatering in rail-heads will cease.

The Council when the Health Bill was introduced, referring to clause 81, and to clause 8 of schedule B, which provide for "300 cubic feet of clear interior space" to each adult, said that "if these were put into force, and carried out strictly at once, it is calculated it would turn out about 20,000 people, therefore it is not intended to carry it out at once, but by bit." We wonder the hon. gentleman with his legal mind did not demand that this should be stated in the Bill, for we have looked in vain for any guarantee for this. Why not provisions to this effect incorporated in the Bill? It speaks little for the legal training of the writers of the Ordinance that we are unable to find a clause to which the Attorney-General was entertained by them. We heartily welcome clause 15, section 19, by which the Board will have power to make by-laws in regard to "the maintenance of cleanliness in the harbours of Victoria, the waters of the Colony, and the foreshores thereof;" also clause 3, section 16, by which any vessel or boat lying within the waters of the colony is defined as "primes." We trust that under the working of these clauses the present anchoring of sampans, &c., near foreshores will be forbidden and the consequent deposit thereon of foul waste matter, which send forth vitious and noxious gases at low tide, will cease. It will then be necessary to walk from the end of the Peninsula to the other without having practically to mind of Otago and its vicinity.

As far as we can see, after a careful perusal of the Bill, no such or exception can be taken to the regulations regarding "new buildings"—that in buildings erected after the passing of this Bill. And we believe it will be found that the Bill will be unopposed by the Chinese, my heartily supported, if the modifications we have indicated should be adopted. The provisions as to new buildings will interfere with all, if we trust it will be, the Bill to properly translated into Chinese and made public.

We should like much to hear more details, as to the removal of certain penalties, which often much need. But this cannot be carried out without compensation (owing to past short-sighted legislation).

Compensation might be effected in three ways: (1) Grants of additional land (2) by money payment or (3) By partial remission of taxes for a limited period.

With the alterations suggested we wish the Bill and its promoters success in their work and trust that a sufficient and capable staff of officers will be found to rigidly enforce its provisions. Then we may hope to see Hongkong daily becoming healthier instead of the opposite, and be able to say with the Attorney-General: "We can long life and keep sickness and disease from our doors."

L. BOE OMNIA VINCIT.
Our contractor makes unfair use of the death-rate figures in the Blue book. If he will state these figures again, he will find, we think, that though the increase in the rate has been gradual to a certain extent, the rate fluctuates too much to count up 8.29 as a permanent increase.—*Ed. C.M.*

expected England to share the cost of fortifying Australia. He maintained that arguments with this end in view were advanced in the despatches of the late Sir Alexander Stuart and Lord Augustus Loftus. Sir J. W. Downer concurred in the views of Mr Service. The Hon. John Forrest and Mr Burt (Western Australia), contended that it was chiefly the duty of the Imperial authorities to provide for the defence of Albany, and ultimately the Government of Western Australia would bear the whole cost.

The opposition also turned towards the Imperial Conference, in its military defence of Australia, likely to result in fresh disputes between the right to continue working the China mail services together, as this arrangement in certain seasons of the year causes delay in the conveyance of mail.

The Australian delegates are preparing jubilee addresses for presentation to Her Majesty the Queen.

London, April 21.—At to-day's sitting of the Imperial Conference, the question of the military defence of King George's Sound was discussed. Considerable divergence of opinion was manifested between the Imperial and Colonial representatives, and no understanding was arrived at.

Sir Henry Holland maintained that the question was an Imperial one, and that the colonies should be left to their own resources, and ought to be allowed to act in accordance with their own interests.

Mr. Henrique Heaton, the Australian delegate, expressed a hope that the Government would be prepared to supply the canon required elsewhere, with the views of Mr. Henrique Heaton.

London, April 21.—At the Imperial Conference, the question of the establishment of a Imperial post office, was also discussed, and the Earl of Rosebery, which would be taken to the detriment of convicts to the Pacific. It was difficult to prevent Fiancée from sending recidivists to his own territory, except on the basis of a compromise. Surely the colonies, he asked, did not desire to force England into war.

Sir Graham Berry made a fiery speech, Lord Salisbury's remarks, he said; would be excellent in the mouth of the French Premier. It was evident that expediency governed England's policy. Australia was not treated as an integral part of the Empire, and the colonies were treated as mere appendages.

Sir Samuel Griffith said that Queensland was unable to calmly permit intelligent Hibernians to be placed at the mercy of the worst cut-throats in the world.

THE BRITISH NATIONAL DEBT.

London, April 22.—In the financial statement last night, Mr. Goschen, Chancellor of the Exchequer, announced that the Act of 1883 for reducing the national debt, would be taken to remove local debts from the Imperial Budget, and to create special stock, amounting in the aggregate to £37,000,000 for local loans.

In the course of his speech, Mr. Goschen expressed the hope that large reductions would be made in the naval estimates.

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THE CHINA MAIL.

No. 7414.—MAY 20, 1887.

Mails.

Mails.

Mails.

U. S. MAIL LINE.
PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

THROUGH TO NEW YORK, VIA
OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND TOUCHING
AT YOKOHAMA, AND SAN FRANCISCO.

THE U. S. Mail Steamship *CITY OF PEKING* will be despatched
for San Francisco, via Yokohama, on
TUESDAY, the 24th May, at 3 p.m.,
taking Passage and Freight for Japan,
the United States, and Europe.

Through Bills of Lading issued for trans-
portation to Yokohama and other Japanese
Ports, to San Francisco, to Atlantic and
Inland Cities of the United States, via Over-
land Railways, to Havana, Trinidad, and
Dumarcay, and to ports in Mexico, Central
and South America, by the Company's and
connecting Steamers.

Through Passage Tickets granted to
England, France, and Germany by all
trans-Atlantic lines of Steamers.

RETURN Passengers, who have paid full fare, re-embarking at San
Francisco for China or Japan (or vice versa)
within six months, will be allowed a discount
of 20% from Return Fare; if re-embarking
within one year, an allowance of 10% will
be made from Return Fare. Pre-Paid Return
Passage Orders, available for one year,
will be issued at a Discount of 25% from
Return Fare. These allowances do not apply
to through fares from China and Japan to
Europe.

Fare will be received on board until 4
p.m. the day previous to sailing. Parcel
Packages will be received at the office until
5 p.m. same day; and if not paid, Packages
should be paid in full, value of
one pound.

Complaints, Invoices to accompany Cargo
destined to ports beyond San Francisco
should be sent to the Company's Offices in
Sealed Envelopes, addressed to the Collector
of Customs at San Francisco.

For further information as to Passage and
Freight, apply to the Agency of the
Company, No. 504, Queen's Road Central.

C. D. HARMAN,
Agent.

Hongkong, May 5, 1887. 871